

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Non Final Office Action dated November 2, 2006. Claims 47, 62, 65, 70, 72, 73, 75, 79, 81, and 87 have been amended. Claims 1–46, 80, and 88–90 have been canceled. No new matter has been added. Claims 47–79, 81–87, and 91 are pending.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of the allowability of claims 78, 84–86, and 91 and the allowability of claims 47–61, 63, 64, 66–69, 71, 74, 76, 77, 80–83 and 88 if amended to include respective base claims. Claim 47 has been amended to incorporate claim 1 and claim 81 has been amended to incorporate claim 79. Claim 80 has been incorporated into claim 79 and Claim 88 has been incorporated into Claim 87. It is respectfully submitted that claims 47–79, 81–87, and 91 are allowable.

Claims 1, 62, 65, 70, 72, 73, 75, 79, 87, 89, and 90 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rondeau (U.S. Patent No. 5,850,433).

Claim 1 has been canceled.

Claims 62, 65, 70, 72, 73, and 75, as amended, depend from allowable claim 47. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 62, 65, 70, and 72 are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 79, as amended, incorporates allowable claim 80 and claim 87, as amended, incorporates allowable claim 88. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 79 and 87 are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 89 and 90 have been canceled.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendment and remarks it is submitted that the claims are patentably distinct over the prior art and that all the rejections to the claims have been overcome. Reconsideration and reexamination of the above Application is requested. Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully requests that

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the pending claims be allowed, and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee that is not covered by an enclosed check please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-0463.

Respectfully submitted,

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